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Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation: reports of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and the World Food Programme

Extract from the report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund on its 2011 annual session (20-23 June 2011)

Decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its annual session of 2011

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* E/2011/100 and Corr.1.

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2011/7. Report of the Office of Ethics

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Office of Ethics of UNICEF (E/ICEF/2011/11);

2. *Recognizes* that the ethics office contributes to fostering a culture of ethics, integrity and accountability in the organization, and, in this regard, notes with appreciation the efforts of the ethics office in providing advice, guidance, protection from retaliation, review of financial disclosure statements, and training to the organization and staff;

3. *Encourages* the management of UNICEF to further strengthen the functions of its ethics office in its organization, and to provide sufficient resources for the ethics office to carry out its programme of work;

4. *Looks forward* to the consideration of future annual reports of the ethics office of UNICEF, pursuant to Executive Board decision 2010/18, particularly recommendations to management that will strengthen the organizational culture of integrity and compliance.

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2011/8. Draft country and common country programme documents

The Executive Board

Approves the aggregate indicative budget for the following country and common country programmes of cooperation:

Region/country	*Period*	*Regular resources*	*Other resources*	*Document E/ICEF/2011/*
Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States				
Albania	2012-2016	3 750 000	27 000 000	DCCP-ALB/1
Croatia	2012-2016	—	13 436 000	P/L.1
Kyrgyzstan	2012-2016	4 600 000	25 000 000	P/L.2
Montenegro	2012-2016	3 750 000	8 000 000	P/L.3 and Corr.1
Ukraine	2012-2016	4 075 000	18 000 000	P/L.4
East Asia and the Pacific				
Lao People's Democratic Republic	2012-2015	7 860 000	51 688 000	P/L.5
Mongolia	2012-2016	3 750 000	15 250 000	P/L.6
Philippines	2012-2016	15 495 000	70 000 000	P/L.7
Eastern and Southern Africa				
Ethiopia	2012-2015	160 212 000	286 985 000	P/L.8
Zimbabwe	2012-2015	19 004 000	320 724 000	P/L.9 and Corr.1

Region/country	*Period*	*Regular resources*	*Other resources*	*Document E/ICEF/2011/*
Middle East and North Africa				
Morocco	2012-2016	6 045 000	26 000 000	P/L.10
Oman	2012-2015	—	4 400 000	P/L.11
South Asia				
Bangladesh	2012-2016	112 410 000	333 000 000	P/L.14
The Americas and the Caribbean				
Chile	2012-2016	3 750 000	8 000 000	P/L.15
Eastern Caribbean — multi-country programme (Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands)	2012-2016	16 000 000	15 000 000	P/L.16
El Salvador	2012-2015	3 000 000	8 500 000	P/L.17
Honduras	2012-2016	3 750 000	10 000 000	P/L.19
Jamaica	2012-2016	3 750 000	10 100 000	P/L.20
West and Central Africa				
Central African Republic	2012-2016	19 315 000	60 000 000	P/L.21
Chad	2012-2016	56 585 000	95 000 000	P/L.22
Gabon	2012-2016	3 750 000	8 000 000	P/L.23
Gambia	2012-2016	5 355 000	15 000 000	P/L.24
Ghana	2012-2016	43 055 000	140 000 000	P/L.25
Mauritania	2012-2016	9 020 000	53 475 000	P/L.26
Sao Tome and Principe	2012-2016	3 750 000	2 500 000	P/L.27
Senegal	2012-2016	26 730 000	50 000 000	P/L.28

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2011/9. Extensions of ongoing country programmes

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the one-year extensions of the country programmes approved by the Executive Director, as indicated in table 1 to document E/ICEF/2011/P/L.29, for Belize, Bhutan, Guinea, Haiti, Madagascar, Republic of Moldova and Tunisia.

2. *Approves* the two-year extension for Paraguay and the second one-year extension for South Africa, as presented in table 2 to document E/ICEF/2011/P/L.29.

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2011/10. Least developed countries

The Executive Board

1. *Welcomes* the endorsement of the Istanbul Declaration (A/CONF.219/L.1) and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 (A/CONF.219/3/Rev.1), hereinafter referred to as the Istanbul Programme of Action, by the General Assembly in its resolution 65/280 of 17 June 2011;

2. *Recalls* the fundamental characteristics of the operational activities of the United Nations as contained in General Assembly resolution 62/208 of 19 December 2007;

3. *Notes* the strong support given by UNICEF to the least developed countries;

4. *Stresses* the need for UNICEF to give special attention to the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action in its support of the least developed countries and in accordance with its mandate;

5. *Invites* the Executive Director to integrate, in close cooperation with the Chair of the United Nations Development Group, the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action in the programme of UNICEF, as called for in the Istanbul Programme of Action, paragraph 153, and in General Assembly resolution 65/280, paragraph 2, and to report on its implementation as part of the annual report of the Executive Director.

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2011/11. Election of the Bureau of the Executive Board

The Executive Board,

Recalling its Rules of Procedure and underlining the importance of their observance,

1. *Encourages* regional groups to recommend candidates for the Bureau of the Executive Board during the second regular session of 2011;

2. *Encourages* the Bureau to invite the recommended candidates mentioned in paragraph 1 above to participate as observers in the monthly meetings of the Bureau in order to become better informed about the ongoing work and better prepared to execute their future functions in the Bureau;

3. *Decides* to convene in early January of each year, starting in 2012, the first meeting of its subsequent first regular session for the sole purpose of electing a new President and other members of the Bureau, in accordance with rule 11 of the Rules of Procedure;

4. *Requests* the Secretariat to ensure that the scheduling and organization of this additional meeting is done in consultation with the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management to ensure that conference services are provided within the existing entitlement of the Executive Board of UNICEF.

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2011/12. Annual report of the Executive Director: progress and achievements against the medium-term strategic plan, 2006-2013

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the annual report of the Executive Director of UNICEF on progress and achievements against the medium-term strategic plan, 2006-2013 (E/ICEF/2011/9), and its companion document, and acknowledges the significant results achieved in 2010;

2. *Reiterates* the need for UNICEF to continue to improve its results-oriented reporting to the Executive Board, including better, more systematic results reporting at an organizational level, demonstrating the contributions to national results, as set out in national priorities, and in this regard takes note with appreciation of the refocus on the equity approach, which could contribute to this end;

3. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts to enhance results-based management, and in this regard requests UNICEF, when preparing the medium-term strategic plan for 2014-2017, to continue to develop a robust results framework that demonstrates a complete results chain, with expected results at all levels, and looks forward to regular consultations with the members of the Executive Board on methodology, including on measurable indicators, the format and results management and reporting on the UNICEF medium-term strategic plan for 2014-2017;

4. *Requests* UNICEF to present, at the first regular session of 2012, for approval by the Executive Board, a "road map" towards the medium-term strategic plan for 2014-2017, including the results-based management framework and indications of how this work relates to the integrated budget of UNICEF;

5. *Encourages* the Executive Director of UNICEF to continue to seek efficiencies by exercising budgetary discipline in the elaboration of the organization's draft biennial institutional budget for 2012-2013, while recognizing the need for adequate resources to implement the strategic plan;

6. *Requests* UNICEF, in future annual reports of the Executive Director, to introduce lessons learned and recommendations for future strategies of the organization, and to include descriptions of challenges and concrete steps taken to address them;

7. *Urges* UNICEF to continue to support the efforts of the Governments and other national partners to protect children from violence, abuse and exploitation, and encourages the sharing of information in this regard;

8. *Acknowledges* the importance of reporting on gender equality results in all focus areas, as well as, with reference to Executive Board decision 2010/21, on human resources management, including recruitment that takes into consideration the necessity of securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity, while paying due regard to recruiting on as wide a geographical basis as possible in accordance with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations, and reiterates the request to comprehensively integrate the results in these issues in the annual report of the Executive Director.

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2011/13. Report on the progress of gender equality work in UNICEF

The Executive Board

1. *Reaffirms* gender equality as one of the cross-cutting strategies of the medium-term strategic plan of UNICEF;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report on the progress of gender equality work in UNICEF (E/ICEF/2011/10) and the steps taken to improve work on gender equality;

3. *Takes note* of the internal monitoring framework of UNICEF to measure progress in implementation of the gender equality policy in the work of UNICEF, encourages UNICEF to integrate gender equality into programme processes, emphasizes the need to ensure adequate financial and human resources for gender equality and empowerment of women, and requests UNICEF to present to the Executive Board information on the initial use of the gender equality marker in the report on the progress of gender equality work in UNICEF;

4. *Urges* UNICEF to make further improvements towards contributing to the achievement of gender equality results and to report on the results of the contributions of UNICEF to improved gender equality in the context of the medium-term strategic plan;

5. *Takes note* of the independent review of the attention given to gender equality analysis and results of the work of UNICEF in country programme documents, and in this regard, requests UNICEF to continue to make improvements, including through, inter alia, appropriate quality assurance processes and gender equality expertise;

6. *Recommends* the strengthening of institutional accountability mechanisms, including, inter alia, management accountability for gender equality results, quality assurance throughout the planning and programming cycle, allocation of human and financial resources, access to appropriate gender equality expertise, including the use of local experts, and sex-disaggregated reporting on results;

7. *Urges* UNICEF to continue the improvement in staff capacity for gender analysis and the development of gender equality results and indicators across the programming areas of UNICEF, including the deployment of qualified specialists to provide leadership, guidance and expertise at country and regional levels;

8. *Urges* UNICEF to continue efforts by senior management to improve the integration of gender equality analysis and results in programming and policy at headquarters, regional and country levels, and also to improve targeted action;

9. *Requests* UNICEF to work closely with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), working as part of the United Nations country team, to advance gender equality and the empowerment of women on the basis of complementary and synergetic relationships in order to help to achieve national priorities and targets in the field of gender equality and the empowerment of women;

10. *Requests* UNICEF to continue to report on the progress of its gender equality work, in line with the strategic priority action plan for gender equality, during the annual session of the Executive Board, while taking into account the provisions of Executive Board decisions.

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